

## REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is requested.

Claims 5, 10, 13, 14, 16, 25, 27 and 35-38 have been amended per the formalities indicated in Item 1 of the Office Action.

Item 4 of the Office Action indicate rejection of claims 1-10, 12-32, and 34-36 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Mansukhani et. al., disclosing a non-stick gum composition including a blend of polyvinyl acetates of different molecular weights and other chewing gum components. Mansukhani requires a blend of polyvinyl acetates of different molecular weights in low medium and high ranges. The present invention under consideration, requires only the ultra high molecular weight polyvinylacetates for the gum base to be removable. The theory of the removable gum base of the present invention takes advantage of the larger molecules intertwining amongst themselves to increase cohesion within the gum base. The lower molecular weight polyvinylacetates are only presented as optionally ingredients and do not impact the removability of the gum base.

Item 5 of the Office Action indicate rejection of claims 11 and 13 as being unpatentable over Mansukhani et al in view of JP 2001149019. Claims 11 and 13 have been cancelled.

Item 6 of the Office Action indicate rejection of claims 1-10, 12-18, 22-32, 34-40, 45 and 46 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Bunczek et al, which discloses the use of high and low molecular weight polyvinylacetates. A requirement of the Bunczek et al invention is the component siloxane. The polyvinylacetates disclosed in Bunczek et al, are unique to the invention as needing to be used with siloxane in specific ratios between 20:80 and 95:5. The point of novelty in Bunczek et al is the use of siloxane in the gum base. These components work together to provide a unique reduced adhesion characteristic. The present invention does not depend of removability via reduced adhesion, but rather increased cohesion in the gum base given the presence of ultra high molecular weight polyvinylacetates, and does not require siloxane in the formulation and this is what makes it novel.

Item 7 of the Office Action indicate rejection of claims 11 and 13 as being unpatentable over Bunczek et al in view of JP 2001149019 A and JP 60186249

A or WO 9700619 A. Claims 11 and 13 have been cancelled as indicated in earlier remarks.

Item 8 of the Office Action indicate rejection of claims 19-21 and 41-44 as being unpatentable over Bunczek et al in view of Mansukhani et al and Koch et al. Claims 19-21 and 41-44 are cancelled.

Please consider this a petition for a five month extension of time. Fees to be deducted from deposit account 23-3270. Please consider this a petition for adjustment of any insufficiency or overpayment to deposit account number 23-3270.

On the basis of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of this application and its early allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jagriti Chander', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jagriti Chander  
Agent for Applicants  
Registration No. 46,610

January 16, 2004  
Wm. Wrigley Jr. Company  
R&D  
3535 S. Ashland Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60640  
Ph: 773-650-7671  
FAX: 773-847-2335  
e-mail: jchander@wrigley.com